

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended.

Applicant acknowledges and thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 11-13 contain allowable subject matter. For at least the reasons discussed below, Applicant submits that all the claims are allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Midorikawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,373,893); rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Midorikawa; rejects claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Midorikawa in view of Komori (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,391); and rejects claims 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Midorikawa in view of Malladi (U.S. Patent No. 5,912,676). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, neither Midorikawa, Komori nor Malladi, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests a decoding processing division for performing a decoding process including motion compensation, which has a dedicated storage division used for a motion compensation process in the coding of an image signal, and a motion compensation processing division for performing the motion compensation process to the image signal, as recited in independent claim 1.

Midorikawa discloses in Fig. 1 and at col. 9, lines 65-66, col. 10, lines 8-12, a motion vector detection device for processing dynamic image information that includes a DRAM interface unit 102 that controls DRAMs used as framed memory, and local memory 103, that stores, among others, image data of a block whose motion vector is being obtained.

The Office Action associates the interframe predictive coding device 110 of Midorikawa with the claim decoding process division. As shown in Fig. 1 of Midorikawa, the local memory 103 is not in the interframe predictive coding device 110 but is in the motion vector detecting device 100. Therefore, Midorikawa does not disclose or suggest the above-noted feature of claim 1. Thus, Midorikawa does not provide for the benefits and advantages of the

claimed invention that enables results such as: (1) to decrease manufacturing costs, and (2) to reduce power consumption during decoding process, which are described in the original specification, for example, at pages 8-14.

Neither Komori nor Malladi compensate for the above-noted feature of claim 1.

Komori discloses in Fig. 1 and at col. 14, lines 1-13, a frame memory 17 for temporarily storing a reference picture and a motion compensation unit for field mode 18 for motion compensating a reference picture stored in the frame memory 17 in meeting with the frame motion predictive mode.

Malladi discloses in Fig. 4 and at col. 9, lines 19-26, an Inverse Quantization Block 106, which is coupled to provide an output to an inverse DCT block 108, which is coupled to provide an output to a motion compensation block 110. A frame store memory or external memory 112 is coupled to the output of the motion compensation block 110 to receive and store decoded frame data.

Therefore, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-13 depend on independent claim 1, and therefore also define patentable subject matter as well as for the other features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: March 28, 2005

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